

THE

# HISTORIAN



OF HANCOCK COUNTY

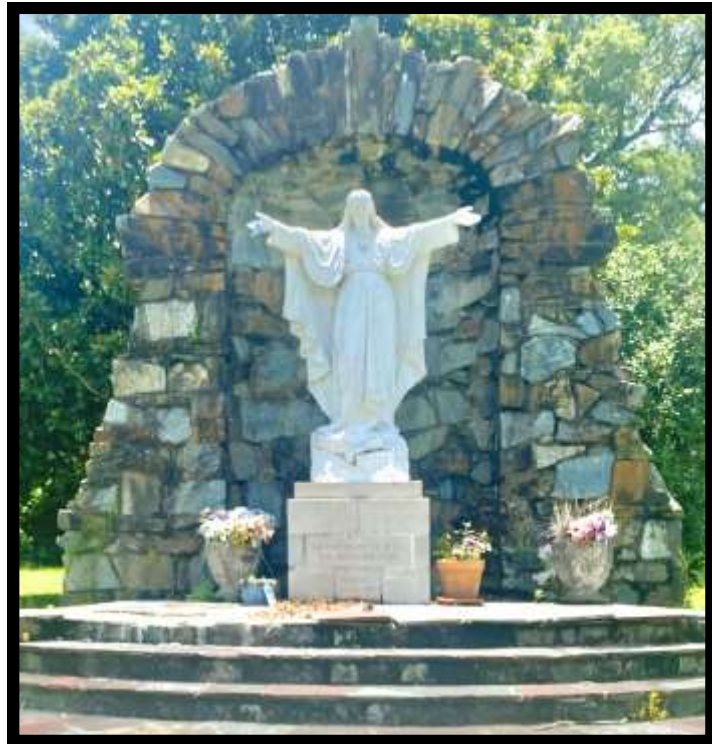
[www.hancockcountyhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.hancockcountyhistoricalsociety.com)

Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi

July 2024

## COMING EVENTS AT LOBRANO HOUSE

The monthly luncheon meeting will be held on Thursday, July 18, 2024, at noon at the Kate Lobrano House. The guest speaker will be Allisa Beck who will speak on the Gulf Coast College for Women, currently the Gulf Coast Campus of the University of Southern Mississippi. **Reservations are required** and may be made by calling 228-467-4090. **Please call by noon on Wednesday, July 17**, to make your reservation. Seating is limited to forty-eight (48) people, and we need to order the correct number of lunches. **Served at noon, lunch is \$15.00 for members and \$17.00 for nonmembers**, payable at the door. The catering order is submitted on Wednesday at noon prior to the luncheon on Thursday. If you need to cancel your reservation, please call by noon on Wednesday prior to the luncheon if at all possible so that the society does not incur unnecessary expenses. It is catered by Almost Home Catering with Chef Michelle Nichols. The lunch menu is chicken stew with biscuits, green beans, salad, triple chocolate brownies.



Wayside Shrine  
At Saint Augustine Seminary along US Highway Ninety  
Bay St. Louis, Mississippi

## KING OF THE HIGHWAY Bay St. Louis 1955

By  
Jim Schott

Many a child through the years that traveled to the Gulf Coast looked forward to the sight of the beautiful, white sandy beaches of the Mississippi Coast. Hot and tired in the back seat of the car, they badgered their parents with the question "are we there yet?" The wayside shrine to the Sacred Heart or "King of the Highway" as it was called at its dedication in 1955, has for dec-

ades not only been an expression of faith, love, and protection for travelers along Highway 90, but it has also become a familiar landmark and part of the fabric of the civic landscape of Bay St. Louis and Hancock County.

Today, most of us probably take for granted what in 1955 was certainly not. Bay St. Louis joined a small list of cities made up of Washington, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Denver. Faith and civic pride in the community drove a massive dedication event that went all out with a parade and attendance reported in the thousands. Guests who spoke at the dedication—then people in the midst of historic challenges that would later make them fa-

# THE HISTORIAN

OF HANCOCK COUNTY

Eddie Coleman, Editor  
James Keating, Publisher

Published monthly by the  
**HANCOCK COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Chris Roth, President  
Beverly Frater, Treasurer  
Georgie Morton, Secretary  
James Keating, Publicity Chairman  
Jim Codling, Historian and Parliamentarian  
Ron Thorp, Chairman of the House Committee  
Bryan Frater, Membership & Fund Raising  
Bert Young, Audiovisual Tech  
Candee Canady, Archivist

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

P. O. Box 3356  
Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi 39521

**PHYSICAL ADDRESS:**

108 Cue Street  
Telephone [228] 467-4090

**Email address:**

[hancockcountyhis@bellsouth.net](mailto:hancockcountyhis@bellsouth.net)

**Website:**

[www.hancockcountyhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.hancockcountyhistoricalsociety.com)  
Marianne Pluim, Webmaster

## LOBRANO HOUSE HOURS

MONDAY — FRIDAY  
10:00AM — 3:00PM  
CLOSED 12—1 (lunch)

**Closed: 12:00—1:00 (lunch)**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

“TO PRESERVE THE GENERAL AND ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF HANCOCK COUNTY AND TO PRESERVE THE KATE LOBRANO HOUSE AND COLLECTIONS THEREIN; TO RESEARCH AND INTERPRET LIFE IN HANCOCK COUNTY; AND TO ENCOURAGE AN APPRECIATION OF AND INTEREST IN HISTORICAL PRESERVATION.”

mous—were beginning to articulate the challenges they faced. The creation and dedication of the Wayside Shrine has a history that is worth remembering.

Wayside Shrines have been a feature of many cultures in Asia and Europe through the centuries—in particular Chinese folk religious communities, Hindu regions of India, and Catholic and Orthodox regions of Europe. Of many styles and sizes from simple to complex, they are often erected to honor the memory of a victim of an accident, a special incident near the place, or old pilgrimage routes. They reflected the dangers of travel, the need for landmarks in ancient roads, and marked the landscape with symbols of faith, community, and protection for travelers.

The movement to construct Wayside Shrines to the Sacred Heart in the United States started in

the 1950s and was the inspiration of Joseph J. Ellicott of Chicago, IL, and the Rev. Francis Larkin who was the Executive Director of the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in Washington, DC. Following his wife's death, Ellicott had become dedicated to the placement of wayside shrines along highways and often told the story of a drunk driver speeding along Lakeshore Drive in Chicago with his wife. Despite her begging, he refused to stop until she brought his attention to a small light in the distance. Pulling over to investigate, he found the light shining on a small wayside shrine to the Sacred Heart.

Together, Ellicott and Larkin had successfully erected shrines in Washington, DC, New York City, Philadelphia, Denver, and Milwaukee, WI. The location at Bay St. Louis was to be the first of its kind in the South, and they

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As with long standing traditions, this past Independence Day was celebrated with grilling, trips to the beach, fireworks and gathering with family and friends. These annual Independence Day celebrations date back to the first public 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration at the White House in 1801 when Thomas Jefferson was president.

The road to independence started in 1775 with the battle of Lexington and Concord. The Siege of Yorktown and defeat of the British army in 1781 effectively ended the war. Nonetheless, it was not officially over until the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1783.

### Independence Day Trivia

The oldest 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade has been held in Bristol Rhode Island since 1785.

Congress approved the Declaration of Independence on July 2, and it was dated July 4 although it was not signed by everyone until August 2.

Three presidents and signers of the Declaration of Independence died on July 4<sup>th</sup>, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and James Monroe.

Philadelphia is credited with having the first 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks display in 1777. Americans now spend over one billion for fireworks each year.

In 1778 George Washington doubled the rum rations for his troops in celebration of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

*“Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”* John Adams

Chris Roth  
President

hoped to erect another in Los Angeles. They found support in the Society of the Divine Word through Rev. Robert Pung, Rector of the Seminary through financing and resources from the Laymen's Retreat League and Friends of the Seminary. Ellicott and Larkin selected the site-- at the time a wooded knoll rising to the height overlooking Highway 90 where it could be seen from both east and west approaches. They also noted "the inviting site--wooded around it with all southern pines, sweet magnolias, live oaks and white oaks that crown the knoll." Several were engaged to construct the shrine including Thaddeus Boucree, master craftsman from New Orleans, and locals John Dautrieve, Raphael Favre, Andrew Lizana, and Paul Gorman. The statue was manufactured in Italy and shipped to Bay St. Louis.

The community attended the dedication event on January 18, 1955, with pomp and circumstance. Beginning with mass at St. Augustine Seminary chapel, a parade followed to the shrine site. People and cars filled the site and lined Highway 90. State Troopers stopped traffic on Highway 90 for the parade consisting of four bands including the Keesler Airfield Band, St. Stanislaus, St. Mary's Academy in New Orleans, and Sacred Heart Academy in Biloxi. Three hundred airmen from Keesler marched and were joined by The Knights of Peter Claver and Knights of Columbus—both dressed in full regalia escorting the special attendees who included Cardinal Thomas Tien. Archbishop Rummel of New Orleans, Bishop Gerow of Natchez, and the Very Rev. William C. Baul Provincial of the SVD Southern Province.

Coverage of the event reported attendance in the thousands and pictures of the event attest to the popularity and importance to the community. Two special guests who spoke at the event also reflected global and national history of the

time.

Cardinal Thomas Tien, born Tien Kenhsin in Chantsu China, was the first Cardinal from China and the first Archbishop of Peking (today Beijing). However, the Chinese government had recently exiled Cardinal Tien reflecting the implications and monumental shift of the rise of Chinese Communism. To this day, the Catholic Church does not recognize the Archbishop of Beijing which is appointed by the Chinese Government. Cardinal Tien Studied seminary in Yenchowfu China before his ordination in 1918. He entered the Society of the Divine Word in 1929 forming his connection with Bay St. Louis where the Southern Province of the Divine Word Missionaries and its St. Augustine Seminary was formed.

Next spoke Archbishop Rummel of New Orleans. In his role, the Archbishop oversaw the administration of the Catholic Church in southeast Louisiana and one of the largest Catholic regions of the US. The era of civil rights to end segregation had just begun. Only a few months earlier, the Supreme Court had ruled in *Brown v. Board of Education* that laws establishing racial segregation were unconstitutional. Already this was bringing on vocal and violent opposition in southern communities. In the coming year, Archbishop Rummel closed a church in Louisiana that refused to have a black priest conduct mass, and he would excommunicate civic leaders in Louisiana that used threats of violence to oppose integration of Catholic schools.

His message that day reflected that these challenges of civil rights were already pressing. Perhaps he chose to assign a special mission to his wayside shrine because he spoke that day to a community that reflected the influence of the St. Augustine Seminary, St. Rose de Lima Parish, and work of the Society of the Divine Word in early efforts to desegregate the Catholic Church. Indeed,

he shared the stage with people of color and paraded through Bay St. Louis to the dedication site escorted by black and white men. It was a rare if not impossible opportunity in most places in the south.

That day he chose to speak to the significance of the Wayside Shrine to the Sacred Heart as not just a symbol of travelers but also for change saying..." there is a distinctive significance in the dedication of this shrine to Christ under the title KING OF THE HIGHWAYS. This ceremony is a part of a movement which we hope may become nationwide...dotting our cities and country sides, our plains, and our mountains. They will serve as warning signals that will be more effective than red lights and police sirens, that human lives are precious in the Mind of God...His outstretched arms will be symbols of protection to the wayfarers,...those same outstretched arms will also encourage caution and sober care to the drivers of motor vehicles."

"This particular shrine is intended to serve yet another very sublime purpose. It is to stand as a symbol of the solicitude of the loving Heart of Jesus...for our brethren of the Colored race. Standing here by the roadside, this beautiful figure of Christ with His Sacred Heart exposed will preach silently yet with convincing eloquence that His love extends to all men...."







Casey Sullivan MLIS

Casey is a recent graduate from the University of Southern Mississippi with a masters degree in Library and Information Science. He is a summer volunteer at the Loblano House.

### NEW MEMBERS

Mary Lou Applewhite  
*Baton Rouge, LA*

Rodger McRee  
*Waveland, MS*

## Alice Moseley Folk Art Museum

honors nationally acclaimed Folk Artist,  
**Alice Latimer Moseley**  
(1909-2004).



*"The House is Blue, But the Old Lady Ain't"*

**Monday-Saturday**  
**10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**

Located in the Historic Train Depot  
1928 Depot Way, Bay St. Louis, MS  
228-467-9223

[www.alicemoseley.com](http://www.alicemoseley.com)

**FREE ADMISSION!**

## RIEMANN FAMILY Funeral Homes

Est. 1920

Our Family Faithfully Serving  
Bay Saint Louis, Waveland, and Hancock County  
Now with full Reception Centers  
141 Hwy 90, Waveland, MS 39576  
(228) 242-4500

"There is a Difference, Riemann Services"



**EDMOND-FAHEY**  
FUNERAL HOMES  
SINCE 1895

Stop in and see our new renovations including chapel, furnishings, audio/video, and more.  
Locally owned Bradford-O'Keefe affiliate

## SECOND SUNDAY BLUES BRUNCH

AT THE 100 MEN HALL



FEATURING

**LITTLE FREDDIE KING**

SUNDAY, JULY 14, 2024

11AM-1PM

\$20 IN ADVANCE / \$25 AT THE DOOR

FOOD FOR PURCHASE BY

BIG BERTHA

# ★ BOOKER ★ FEST!

EVERY LABOR DAY WEEKEND



**100 MEN HALL**  
303 UNION STREET BAY SAINT LOUIS

**MUSIC★CULTURE★COMMUNITY**



## Crab Feast



**EVERY NIGHT**  
All Day Saturday & Sunday

*All-you-can-eat  
Dungeness,  
Snow, Jonah, and  
Jumbo Shrimp*

**\$49.95** Tax & gratuity not included.

**SILVER SLIPPER**  
CASINO & HOTEL

www.silverflipper-ms.com • 1-866-SLIPPER • 1-866-754-7737  
5000 South Beach Blvd. • Bay St. Louis, MS 39520





## GARDENIA TEA ROOM

BY ALMOST HOME

www.gardeniatearoom.com  
228-332-2334



**Steve B. Treutel**

**Vice President**

**Senior Financial Advisor**

Mississippi Gulf Coast  
(228) 385-6307

Merrill Lynch Wealth Management makes available products and services offered by Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith incorporated, a registered broker-dealer and member SIPC, and other subsidiaries of Bank of America Corporation. All rights reserved.  
AD-06-12-0048 ARSOT2V1-10-11 Code 453007PM-0612

### THE LITTLE HOUSE OF HEALING



In *The Little House of Healing* by L.L. Lee, nine troubled individuals from a recently divorced woman to a courageous cancer battler, seek solace and a fresh start in the serene haven of Miss Lucy's peaceful Bay St. Louis cottage. This inspirational novel explores redemption and the resilience of the human spirit.

Available at Amazon.com, Historical Society, and some local shops in Bay St. Louis

PATRICK MARTINEZ  
Financial Advisor

**RAYMOND JAMES®**

T 228.466.9888 843 Highway 90  
F 228.466.9978 Bay Saint Louis, MS 39520  
patrick.martinez@raymondjames.com  
www.RaymondJames.com

Securities offered through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC.

## FORD REALTY

(601) 798-6202 800-354-FORD(3673)

Residential, Timberland, Ranches, Commercial



**MARTHA FORD, Broker, GRI SFR**

MARTYFORD@BELLSOUTH.NET

CELL 601-590-2988

www.fordrity.com



1004 Memorial Blvd  
P.O. Box 418  
Piquette, MS 39468  
Fax 601-799-0202

Est. 1949



## Descendants of Juan de Cuevas



24567 Standard Dedeaux Rd  
Kiln, Ms 39556

Phone: (228) 222-0071 Fax: (228) 255-7195

descendantsofjuandecuevas@outlook.com

Website: www.cuevasofcatisland.org

\*Follow us on Facebook and YouTube\*

## Family Association

**ZACH BUTTERWORTH**

HESSE & BUTTERWORTH, PLLC

**ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

ZBUTTERWORTH@BELLSOUTH.NET

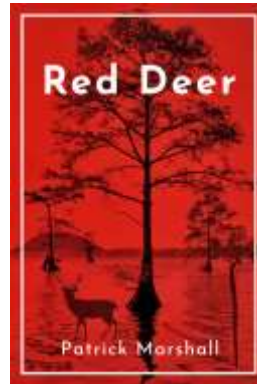
POST OFFICE BOX 3567  
BAY ST. LOUIS, MS 39521

PH. 228-255-7500 Fx. 228-255-9009

**REAL ESTATE SALES & RENTALS**  
**SINCE 1928 - CELEBRATING 90 YEARS!**



**418 HWY 90 - WAVELAND- 228-467-5454**  
**WWW.ASHMAN-MOLLERE.COM**



*Red Deer* is fantasy infused historical fiction. Jesse Walker, a 16 year old from present day Gulf Coast Mississippi, is transported back through time to the legendary birthplace of the Choctaw people, NanihWaiya village.

**HUBBARD'S WAVELAND  
 HARDWARE**

" IF YOU DONT THINK WE HAVE IT, ASK US!!"

**DAVID & RICHARD HUBBARD**

615 NICHOLSON AVE  
 WAVELAND, MS 39576

PHONE: (228)467-4494 FAX: (228)467-7632

**Mayley's  
 PestControl, LLC**

your local answer to what's  
 bugging you



Cell: 228-380-0755

Ofc: 228-380-0295

Licensed • Bonded • Insured

**Knowledgeable • Professional**

**David Mayley**

mayleys.pest.control@gmail.com

603 Esplanade Ave.

Bay St. Louis, MS 39520



Bay St Louis:  
 412 Hwy 90  
 228-466-4498

Biloxi:  
 2505 Pass Rd  
 228-385-1177

Diamondhead:  
 5400 Indian Hill  
 228-467-2272



**SOUTHGROUP**  
 INSURANCE SERVICES  
 GULF COAST

• We offer Personal, Business, Life  
 and Health Insurance

• We help our clients save  
 money and get more value.

• We are Trusted Choice  
 and have been awarded the  
 Best Practices Designation.

For more information, please  
 visit our website:

[www.southgroupgulfcoast.com](http://www.southgroupgulfcoast.com)

central fax: 888-415-8922



Angela S. Davis, CNA  
 President  
 South Group Insurance  
 Gulf Coast

**Old Town Bay St. Louis**

112 S. Second Street  
 Bay St. Louis, MS

**The Shops of  
 Century Hall**

The Shops of Century Hall is a collection of unique shops in a Marketplace setting all under one roof in an historic building. You can find whatever you need, and there is spacious parking on site.

We are housed in an amazing building built in 1909. You can find original art, jewelry, gifts, home decor, antiques, and just about anything else you could think of. One stop shopping at it's best!

**Phone 504 858 8574**

[www.shops of century hall.com](http://www.shops of century hall.com)



**HANCOCK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**P. O. BOX 3356**  
**BAY ST. LOUIS, MS 39521**

**STREET ADDRESS: 108 CUE ST.**  
**PHONE: 228.467.4090**

**NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION**

U. S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 87  
BAY ST. LOUIS, MS

**HANCOCK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**P. O. BOX 3356, BAY ST. LOUIS, MS 39521**

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Online payment may be made at [www.hancockcountyhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.hancockcountyhistoricalsociety.com)

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY, STATE, AND ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE ( )** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP LEVELS**

Founder Individual \$30\_\_\_\_ Founder Family \$50\_\_\_\_

Thomas Shields \$100 \_\_\_\_

Charles Gray Society \$250\_\_\_\_

Life Time \$500\_\_\_\_

**DUES RENEW IN JANUARY OF EACH YEAR**